

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 12 are amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration since the Amendment amplifies issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; c) does not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and d) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the Amendment is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Hayes for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative, Mr. Jason Vick, during the recent telephone interviews. Based on these conversations, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 12.

The Office Action rejects to the specification for a number of informalities. Again, regarding the Appendices, Applicants are currently reviewing the best approach to have this subject matter included in the specification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be held in abeyance until the indication of allowable subject matter.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 7-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,958,016 to Chang et al. (hereinafter "Chang") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,825,769 to O'Reilly (hereinafter "O'Reilly"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*,... said customer-specific retrieved data and said metadata

description of said reporting items are communicated to said client workstation and utilized to generate a completed report for presentation to said customer, the completed report capable of being dynamically determined based on the metadata and one or more of customization options and user options.

Similarly, claim 12 recites, *inter alia*,...generating a completed report for said customer from said metadata description of said reporting items and said retrieved said customer-specific data via said integrated interface, the completed report capable of being dynamically determined based on the metadata and one or more of customization options and user options.

Support for these amendments can at least be found on pages 38-39 of the specification.

The Office submits that Chang teaches that a user can enter a request by clicking on text or icons or sending typed inputs to a server and that this meets the language of the claims since the text, icons or typed inputs would be data that describes a type of data desired by the user. However, while selecting icons may identify data to be retrieved that is associated with that icon, Applicants respectfully submit that this can not be equated to the metadata as currently recited in claims 1 and 12 where the completed report is capable of being dynamically determined based on this metadata. Neither Chang nor O'Reilly teach, suggests or disclose any hardware and/or functionality that is capable of performing this function.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submits that the cited references either alone or in combination fail to teach, suggest or disclose each and every aspect of claims 1 and 12. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that the remainder of the claims which depend directly or indirectly from claims 1 and 12 are also not obvious in view of the cited references for at least the reasons outlined above and the additional feature(s) they recite. Withdraw of the rejection of claims 1-4, 7-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 5-6 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Chang and O'Reilly and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,450 to Sharples et al (hereinafter "Sharples"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that Sharples at least fails to overcome the deficiencies noted above in relation to Chang and O'Reilly. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references either alone or in combination, fail to teach, suggest or disclose each and

every aspect of the claims. Accordingly, the cited references fail to render obvious claims 5-6 and 18. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 5-6 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable and reconsider and prompt allowance are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason H. Vick
Registration No. 45,285

JHV:dkf

NIXON PEABODY LLP
8180 Greensboro Drive, Suite 800
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 770-9300

MARKED UP VERSION OF SPECIFICATION AND CLAIM

1. (Amended) A Web/Internet based reporting system for communicating call detail information relating to traffic pertaining to a customer's telecommunications network to a client workstation via an integrated interface, said system comprising:

client browser application located at said client workstation for enabling interactive Web based communications with said reporting system, said client workstation identified with a customer and providing said integrated interface;

at least one secure server for managing client sessions over the internet, said secure server supporting a secure socket connection enabling encrypted communication between said browser application client said secure server;

a report manager server in communication with said at least one secure server for maintaining an inventory of reporting items associated with a customer, the reporting items comprising report data types and report customization features for reports to be generated for the customer;

a data retrieval device for retrieving customer specific data from the customer's telecommunications network at pre-determined times; and,

a requestor application enabling the customer to communicate a data report request message via said integrated interface to the report manager server,

said request message comprising a metadata description of particular reporting items to be retrieved, said metadata description of particular reporting items being verified and forwarded to said retrieval device, and said retrieving device obtaining customer specific data in accordance with the metadata request,

whereby said customer-specific retrieved data and said metadata description of said reporting item are communicated to said client workstation and utilized to generate a completed report for presentation to said customer, the completed report capable of being dynamically determined based on the metadata and one or more of customization options and user options.

12. (Amended) A method for communicating call detail information relating to traffic pertaining to a customer's telecommunications network to a client workstation via an integrated

interface, said method comprising:

enabling interactive Web based communications between said client workstation identified with a customer and one or more secure servers over a secure communications link, said Web based communications including forwarding of report request messages and associated report response messages back over said secure communications link;

accessing reporting items based on a customer entitlement information for a requested report to be generated;

generating a corresponding response message including a metadata description of said reporting items for a requested report;

retrieving said customer-specific data from said customer's telecommunications network in accordance with said reporting items included in said metadata description; and

generating a completed report for said customer from said metadata description of said reporting items and said retrieved customer-specific data via said integrated interface, the completed report capable of being dynamically determined based on the metadata and one or more of customization options and user options.